Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 2 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0. |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0. |

| AHCPCM504 | Design specialised landscape |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop a design brief, consider factors that may influence plant performance, and develop design specifications for specialised landscape design.  The unit applies to individuals who apply specialised skills and knowledge to design specialised landscapes, and take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They analyse and synthesise information and analyse, design and communicate solutions to sometimes complex problems.  All work is carried out to comply with workplace procedures, health and safety in the workplace requirements, legislative and regulatory requirements, and sustainability and biosecurity practices.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Plant Culture and Management (PCM) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Develop a design brief | 1.1 Consult with client to establish the purpose and requirements of the design  1.2 Inspect site and note the physical elements and features of the site  1.3 Conduct a functional analysis of the site  1.4 Develop design criteria and design brief, and consult with client to finalise agreement of the brief |
| 2. Design with plants as a main focus of the design project | 2.1 Categorise plant families and genera, species and cultivars suitable for the design  2.2 Identify a wide range of plants for different design criteria and requirements, which include the use of aesthetic, ornamental, productive and economic plant groups  2.3 Determine and select plants according to design criteria  2.4 Use botanical nomenclature when documenting plants |
| 3. Consider a range of factors that may influence plant performance | 3.1 Determine the implications of climate and environment on plant selection and design  3.2 Select plants that are adaptive to microclimates and mesoclimates in domestic and small to moderate-scale public spaces  3.3 Report on the cultural techniques required to establish and maintain plants in specialised environments  3.4 Identify soil types and condition, and make recommendations for appropriate soil management techniques  3.5 Identify organic and inorganic fertilisers, and make recommendations  3.6 Identify common plant disorders and make recommendations |
| 4. Develop design specifications | 4.1 Incorporate instructions on the use and production of compost  4.2 Define propagation and planting techniques to be used  4.3 Specify situations where staking and guying would be required  4.4 Define pruning and shaping techniques to be used  4.5 Outline the biological, organic and inorganic plant and plant pest management techniques to be used  4.6 Seek expert advice on irrigation requirements for the design  4.7 Develop a weed management plan  4.8 Document and present the design plan to the client |

| Foundation Skills  This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Reading | * Identify and interpret information regarding plant species, cultivars, growing requirements, environmental conditions and functional characteristics |
| Oral communication | * Initiate discussions with client, using clear language to discuss and establish design purpose, finalise design brief, and present design plan |
| Numeracy | * Calculate quantity of plants, products, soil and growing media according to design criteria |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPCM504 Design specialised landscape  Release 2 | AHCPCM504 Design specialised landscape  Release 1 | Performance criteria clarified  Foundation skills added  Assessment requirements updated | Equivalent |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72> |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for AHCPCM504 Design specialised landscape |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has designed a specialised landscape on at least one occasion, and has:   * developed a design brief in consultation with client to establish design purpose and requirements * identified plant species and cultivars using botanical nomenclature * identified and selected plants appropriate to the design criteria * used botanical nomenclature when selecting plants * identified the implications of climate and environment on plant selection and design * identified and designed with plants appropriate for use in controlled environments where required * identified and recommended soils and plant nutrition requirements * identified biological, organic and inorganic plant and plant pest management techniques to be used * identified weeds and recommended appropriate weed management * provided garden design solutions * compiled the recommendations and documented and presented a design plan. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:   * principles and practices of specialised landscape design, including: * aesthetic, ornamental, productive and economic plant groups * allied horticultural, environmental and conservation industries and movements * botanical geography, including plant families, geographic distribution and links * botany, including plant structures and physiology * ethno-botany, including sustainability and the stories of plants * horticultural media, information and knowledge-based resources * how to determine suitability of plants for different environments, such as green buildings, rooftops, conservatories, glass houses and atriums * irrigation and current progress in new irrigation techniques * plant families and detailed knowledge of species and cultivars used in garden design, horticulture industry and other ornamental, productive and economic plant industries * plant taxonomy and nomenclature * principles and processes of plant culture * the use and development of plants through history * turf culture * types, properties and characteristics of a wide range of soils and growing media. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * industry publications and internet sources of information on plant species, cultivars growing requirements, environmental conditions and functional characteristics * relationships: * client * timeframes: * according to job requirements.   Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. |

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